## **REMARKS**

The present application is a continuation application of Serial No. 09/654,131, filed September 1, 2000. The present amendment cancels the original claims 1-59 and adds new claims 60-78 directed to the method of unloading the electrophoresis gel from the gel tube.

The pending claims in this application are claims 60-78, with claims 60, 67 and 74 being independent. Prompt and favorable action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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